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Sacramento and Feather Rivers 2007 Diazinon Basin Plan Amendment Fact Sheet

1 Introduction

This fact sheet outlines an effort to review and revise, if necessary, the diazinon water quality objectives, allocations and implementation plans for the Sacramento and Feather Rivers as included in the Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the Sacramento River and the San Joaquin River.

In 2003, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) issued resolution R5-2003-0148, which approved a Basin Plan Amendment establishing total maximum daily loads (TMDL) and implementation plans for diazinon in the Sacramento and Feather Rivers. In establishing the TMDL and implementation plans, the Board also established new water quality objectives for diazinon in the Sacramento and Feather Rivers of 0.080 µg/L (one hour maximum) and 0.050 µg/L (four day average). The compliance date associated with these water quality objectives is June 30, 2008.

The Basin Plan Amendment included the requirement to review the diazinon allocations and the implementation provisions in the Basin Plan at least once every 5 years, beginning no later than June 30, 2007. In addition to the Basin Plan requirements, a review of the water quality objectives has also been incorporated into a judgment denying writ, issued on 22 July 2005 by the Sacramento County Superior Court (*Makhteshim Agan of North America v State Water Resources Control Board; Regional Water Quality Control Board-Central Valley Region*, Sac. Cty. Sup. Ct. - Case No. 04CS00871).

The following summarizes a work plan to review and amend, if necessary, diazinon water quality objectives, allocations and implementation provisions for the Sacramento and Feather Rivers.

2 Goals and Objectives

The goal of the 2007 Diazinon Basin Plan Amendment is to review that portion of the Basin Plan relating to diazinon levels in the Sacramento and Feather Rivers. The review is intended to assess the need for changes to water quality objectives, load allocations or implementation plans based on information more recent than that available during the initial Basin Plan Amendment. To accomplish its goal, Regional Board staff has the following objectives:

1. Review the dataset used to establish the original Sacramento/Feather Rivers diazinon water quality objectives in light of more recent scientific data.
2. Review and revise, if necessary, the numeric metrics that, when attained, will protect aquatic life from the effects of diazinon.
3. Review and revise, if necessary, the time frame necessary to develop and implement any necessary management measures.
4. Review and revise, if necessary, the determination of available assimilative capacity of diazinon within the Sacramento and Feather Rivers

California Environmental Protection Agency

5. Review and revise, if necessary, the allocation of the assimilative capacity to known sources of diazinon.
6. Establish a clear process for communicating with stakeholders during the development of the Basin Plan Amendment.
7. Review and revise, if necessary, relevant monitoring requirements

3 Scope of Work

The following areas will be considered as part of this Basin Plan Amendment process:

Water Quality Objectives – Staff will critically review the dataset initially used to derive the existing diazinon water quality objectives for the Sacramento and Feather Rivers. Relevant new information about the original dataset will be incorporated. In addition, staff will review and consider incorporation of the dataset recently used by the EPA to establish federal ambient water quality criteria for diazinon. No change in criteria derivation methodology is proposed for this portion of the project.

Source Assessment and Loading Capacity Analysis – Staff will review sources and load allocations to determine if changes are required as a consequence of potential changes to the water quality objectives. Staff will incorporate current data from the Department of Pesticide Regulation's Pesticide Use Registration database to identify changes in the pattern of agricultural and urban usage.

Review of Implementation Plans – Staff will review current implementation plans in light of any proposed changes to the water quality objectives. This will include a review of management practices identified during the 2003 basin planning process to ensure that management practices will be available to meet Basin Plan requirements. Staff will also review regulatory options to ensure that adequate regulatory mechanisms are in place.

4 Current Status (03/24/06) and Contacts

Staff has begun to review applicable diazinon literature. Contact – Paul Hann (916) 464-4628; phann@waterboards.ca.gov.

For more information, please see:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/programs/tmdl/sac_feather_diaz/index.html

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